

**AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the title, paragraphs [0009], [0036] and [0039], and the abstract in the Specification as follows:

**[TITLE]     APPARATUS FOR THE SEALING OF A PIVOT ASSEMBLY FOR-USED  
IN A HARD DISK DRIVE-USE**

**[0009]**       The present invention is characterized in that, in a pivot assembly for hard disk drive use in which ball bearings have been mated with both ends of a shaft, ~~and on the outer circumference of these ball bearings, an inner wall part has mated~~ a sleeve having an integrally formed spacer part (inner wall part) has been disposed between both said ball bearings on the outer circumference of these ball bearings, and ~~at~~, on at least[[,]] one end of the shaft, a seal member that covers the outer end face of the ball bearing has been provided, the seal member is fixed to the outer circumference of the shaft and the inner circumference of the sleeve, and, after fixing, small thickness cutting is done along the entire circumference at the middle part in the radial direction.

**[0036]**       Also at the top end part of the shaft 1 ball bearings 2, the same as the above-mentioned, are pressed in. At the outer circumference of these two ball bearings 2, a sleeve 3 has been mated therewith. In the center part in the axial direction of the sleeve 3, a spacer part (inner wall part) 31, with an inner diameter even smaller than both end parts, is formed integrally with and continuous thereto. At both end faces of the spacer part 31 the outer rings 22 of the ball bearings 2 make contact, and by means of this the outer rings 22 are separated from each other by a set interval. At the upper end part of the shaft 1 a hub cap (seal member) 4 is disposed. The

hub cap 4 is cut to a thin width along the entire circumference at the middle part in the radial direction thereof, divided into an inner circumference part 41 and an outer circumference part 42 with that cut part C in between.

[0039] The above-mentioned kind of pivot assembly is manufactured in the following way. First, a ball bearing 2 is mated ~~an adhesive is applied~~ to the outer circumference of the lower end of a shaft 1 by application of an adhesive therebetween, ~~and a ball bearing 2 is mated thereto. Meanwhile~~ Concurrently, a ball bearing 2 is mated ~~an adhesive is applied~~ to the outer circumference of the upper end of a sleeve 3 by application of an adhesive therebetween, ~~and a ball bearing 2 is mated thereto. Next, the sleeve 3 is mated to the shaft 1 by an adhesive is being~~ applied to the outer circumference of the upper end of a shaft 1 and the inner circumference of the lower end of a sleeve 3 ~~and the sleeve 3 is mated to the shaft 1.~~

[ABSTRACT] ~~To supply a~~ A pivot assembly that narrows the gap of the seal member as much as possible and can effectively restrain the diffusion of gas and dirt from the inside, and, moreover, can also solve the problem of out gas from a hub cap, is presented. ~~A~~ The pivot assembly ~~that has mated ball bearings 2 mated~~ to both ends of a shaft 1, ~~and to the outer circumferences of these ball bearings 2 a spacer 31 has mated to~~ a sleeve 3 disposed between both ball bearings 2 at the outer circumferences of these ball bearings, and has ~~provided a hub cap~~ member that covers the outside end face of the ball bearings at one end of the shaft 1. The hub cap is laser welded to the outer circumference of the shaft 1 and the inner circumference of the sleeve 3, and after laser welding, is thin-width cut by a laser along the entire circumference at the radial middle part.